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THE GROWTH AND DISTRIBUTION OF CANADIAN POPULATION

It has been generally understood that Canada has been undergoing rapid material progress during the past decade. There has been ample and obvious evidence in the increase of exports and imports, in the extension of railway mileage, and in the rapidly expanding movement of immigration. Probably the most interesting source of information lies in the recently published census volume on areas and population.¹ A survey of this report, and a comparison of the census returns of 1911 with the returns of previous censuses and with other available statistics constitute the subject of the present investigation.

I. THE GROWTH OF THE POPULATION

In the study of the movement of the population in any country, continued reference must be made to the actual population at various periods. Hence it will be well for purposes of later comparisons and estimates to consider the growth of the population in Canada, so far as statistics are available, from the beginning.

Population statistics for the various sections of Canada, which sections have since become provinces, and for Canada as a whole, are not uniformly available. The first census of New France was taken in 1665; the first enumeration in Upper Canada, now Ontario, was made in 1824; for the Maritime provinces—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island—the earliest available census statistics are for 1851; for British Columbia and Manitoba, 1871; and for what is now Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories, and the Yukon, 1881. This fact is easily explained by the more tardy development of certain sections of the country. While the population for such unenumerated sections was never large before enumeration was undertaken, it is, nevertheless, expedient to trace the development of the population first by sections and groups of provinces and finally for the Dominion as a whole.

¹ Fifth Census of Canada, 1911, Vol. I, "Areas and Population."

Early records for New France are necessarily unreliable, owing to difficulties of communication and transportation which rendered enumeration rather incomplete, and owing to the impossibility of keeping any satisfactory record of the numbers of the savage population which roamed the country. The earliest of these records, therefore, cover merely a portion of the Canadian population—that part which had come from the Old World, chiefly France, to make a home in Canada, or which was directly descended from such colonists.

The first census of New France was taken in 1665, and regular censuses were taken thereafter until 1698. A summary of these is found in Table I.

TABLE I*

POPULATION OF NEW FRANCE, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MALES, AND THE PERCENTAGE OF MALES TO THE TOTAL POPULATION, IN EACH OF CERTAIN YEARS FROM 1665 TO 1698

Year	Total Population	Males	Percentage of Males to Total Population†
1665.....	3,215	2,034	62
1667.....	3,918	2,406	60.5
1679.....	9,400	.....	.....
1681.....	9,677	5,375	55.5
1685.....	12,263	6,666	54.3
1688.....	11,562	5,940	51.4
1692.....	12,431	6,579	52.9
1695.....	13,639	7,339	55.5
1698.....	15,355	.....	.....

* Compiled from First Census of Canada, 1871, Volume IV.

† Estimated.

These figures show a rather steady increase of population during the latter half of the seventeenth century; although the changing ratio of males to total population gives but little evidence that this development was one toward permanent settlement of the country by French families.

In 1755 the population had increased to 55,009; in 1765 the total reached 69,810. British ascendancy in Canada had been established in 1763, and from that date the development was more rapid. In 1790 Lower Canada, now Quebec, had a population of 161,311; and, by 1881, when the first regular Canadian census

was taken, the population of Lower Canada had increased to 890,261.

Previous to 1750, Upper Canada, now Ontario, was practically uninhabited, but it is believed that by 1784 about 10,000 United Empire Loyalists had settled in the province. The first census of Upper Canada, taken in 1824, showed a population of 155,066. From that year the census, taken annually until 1842, showed rapid advance. In 1833 the population was 295,863, almost double that of 1824. By 1842 it had increased to 487,053. In other words, the population had more than trebled in a period of eighteen years.

In 1851 the Canadian¹ government introduced the system of taking the census of the entire country once every decade. Statistics for ten-year periods are available for the Maritime provinces after 1851, and the growth of the population of the provinces and the Dominion can be traced for regular periods thereafter.

Upper and Lower Canada were the earliest provinces to be settled, and up to the present have been the most densely populated; but within the last thirty years, since the completion of a transcontinental line of railway, the western provinces and territories have been receiving a very large part of the influx of population. The proportion of the inhabitants of the two older provinces to the total population has been steadily decreasing, although in 1911, 4,525,986 persons or about two-thirds of the total population of Canada (7,204,838) still resided there.²

The total population for the provinces Ontario and Quebec, together with percentage increases, from 1851 to 1911, is shown in Table II.

Although the method of comparing the growth by decades is rough, it may nevertheless be seen that the development in population has not been regular. Proportional increase in the population of a country in the early years of its history may or may not be greater than that of later years. The percentage increase in earlier decades may be great or small; indeed, the fluctuation of percentages is likely to be greater at such times because of the

¹ At that time "Canada" comprised Upper and Lower Canada (Ontario and Quebec), under the Act of Union of 1841.

² See Table IX.

smallness of the denominator. Percentages by decades are, therefore, likely to show a fitful growth of population. But the statistics for these two provinces show so wide a variation that little tendency toward regularity or uniformity of development can be deduced.

TABLE II*

TOTAL POPULATION FOR THE PROVINCES, ONTARIO AND QUEBEC, WITH THE PERCENTAGES OF DECENNIAL INCREASE, 1851-1911

CENSUS YEAR	ONTARIO		QUEBEC	
	Total Population	Percentage of Decennial Increase	Total Population	Percentage of Decennial Increase
1851.....	952,004	....	890,261	....
1861.....	1,369,091	46.6	1,111,566	24.8
1871.....	1,620,851	16.1	1,191,516	7.2
1881.....	1,926,922	18.8	1,359,027	14.0
1891.....	2,114,321	9.7	1,488,535	9.5
1901.....	2,182,947	3.2	1,648,898	11.4
1911.....	2,523,274	15.6	2,002,712	21.5

* Compiled from First Census, 1871, Vol. IV, and the Fifth Census, 1911, Vol. I, Tables V, VI, and VII.

However, the increase of population has been general in each of the two provinces. Ontario has usually led, not only in absolute, but also in the percentage increase of the population, since 1851. Yet in the last two decades Quebec seems to have gained the lead in both absolute and relative increase. The increase in Ontario has been the more irregular, varying as it does from 46.6 per cent, for the decade 1851 to 1861, to 3.2 per cent, for the decade ending in 1901. The percentage increase in Quebec has fluctuated within the narrower limits of 24.8 per cent, for the decade ending in 1861, and 7.2 per cent, for the period 1861 to 1871.

These fluctuations have no doubt been accentuated by the changes of industrial life in Canada. For instance, the great diminution of the rates of increase in the decades 1881 to 1891 to 1901 is doubtless due largely to the general decline in the rate of increase for all Canada from 17.2 per cent, for the decade 1871 to 1881, to 11.7 per cent, from 1881 to 1891.

But one other interesting factor must not be neglected. The completion of part of the transcontinental railway line in 1881 must

have had a considerable effect. By 1885 the line was completed through the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific coast was connected with the eastern and Maritime provinces. The increased facilities for freight and passenger transportation and the attractive possibility of free homesteads drew a great many settlers from the east to Manitoba, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories. That such was the case is revealed by the fact that rate of increase for Ontario was but 9.7 per cent and for Quebec 9.5 per cent, as compared with a rate of increase of 11.7 per cent for Canada as a whole.

Much the same conclusions are supported by a consideration of the rates of increase for Ontario and Quebec in the last four decades. One would expect in general that the westward movement would involve a heavier drain on the population of Ontario than on that of Quebec. The French Canadians of Quebec are a very distinct and homogeneous people, the great majority of whom remain all their lives in the vicinity of their birthplaces. Besides, they marry early and have large families. Hence we are not surprised that the westward movement involved a decline of the rate of increase of the population in Ontario from 18.8 per cent, in the 1871-81 period, to 9.7 per cent, for the decade 1881 to 1891, and to 3.2 per cent, for the period 1891 to 1901, as contrasted with the slight decline from 14.0 per cent to 11.4 per cent during the same two decades, in Quebec.

It is true that the percentage increase of population in Ontario and Quebec has increased in the last decade, from 1901 to 1911. This has been due largely to the general acceleration of the rate of increase of the total Canadian population which in turn may be attributed to the increasing immigration into Canada. The recent rate of increase in the two provinces is, however, only about half that for the total population of the Dominion.

But Ontario and Quebec are receiving a fair share of the influx of immigrants. The great industrial development of Ontario and Quebec, in fact of all eastern Canada, has attracted many immigrants, who, ignorant of farming methods, and accustomed to city and town life, seek entry into industrial activities. For the fiscal year 1900-1901 the total immigration was 49,149, and for

the fiscal year 1911-12 the number was 354,237. The total immigration from the beginning of the fiscal year 1900-1901 to the end of the fiscal year 1911-12 was 2,118,714. Table III shows the distribution of immigration by provinces for the period comprising the fiscal years beginning July 1, 1900, and ending March 31, 1912, and for the fiscal year 1911-12.

TABLE III*

DISTRIBUTION BY PROVINCES OF IMMIGRATION INTO CANADA FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 1900, AND ENDING MARCH 31, 1912, AND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1911-12

PROVINCES	PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRATION	
	1900-12	1911-12
Maritime provinces	4.3	4.5
Quebec	14.8	14.3
Ontario	24.7	28.3
Manitoba	15.9	12.2
Saskatchewan and Alberta ..	27.8	26.0
British Columbia	11.8	14.6
Others	0.7	0.1
Total	100	100

* Estimated from statistics of immigration from *Immigration: Facts and Figures*, issued by the Department of Interior, 1912, p. 5.

Thus Ontario in particular has been receiving almost as large a share of immigration as Saskatchewan and Alberta, and a larger share than Quebec. This last comparison indicates, of course, that the percentage increase of the total population of Ontario would have been still smaller as compared with that of Quebec had it not been for the large immigration of artisans and other than agricultural laborers into Ontario, and that the increase of population in Quebec is the best example of an increase of native population that can be found anywhere in Canada.

As has been pointed out, the statistics of growth of population in the Maritime provinces are available for census periods since 1851. Table IV, a summary of census reports, shows that the growth of these provinces has been much less rapid than that of Ontario and Quebec and of Canada as a whole. It will be noted that up to 1881 the growth of the population in the three provinces

was fairly constant and uniform. But the decade 1881-91 saw a decided change amounting to practical stagnation, due no doubt to the same westward movement that affected Ontario and Quebec concurrently with the general check on Canadian expansion. Since then New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have had a slight growth, owing to industrial development in urban centers. Prince Edward Island has suffered a movement toward actual depopulation. These statistics tend to bear out the general conclusion

TABLE IV*

POPULATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK, NOVA SCOTIA, AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, WITH PERCENTAGES OF DECENNIAL INCREASE, 1851-1911

YEAR	NEW BRUNSWICK		NOVA SCOTIA		PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	
	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase
1851.....	103,800	....	276,854	....	71,490†	....
1861.....	252,047	30.0	330,857	8.6	80,857	13.1‡
1871.....	285,594	13.3	387,800	14.2	94,021	16.2
1881.....	321,233	12.5	440,572	13.6	108,891	15.8
1891.....	321,263	0.1	450,396	2.2	109,078	.2
1901.....	331,120	3.1	459,574	2.0	103,259	-5.3
1911.....	351,889	6.3	492,338	7.1	93,728	-9.2

* Compiled from First Census, 1871, Vol. IV, and Fifth Census, 1911, Vol. I, p. 522.

† 1855.

‡ Six years.

suggested above that the westward movement has involved a larger drain on English-speaking provinces than on Quebec, and that an actual decrease in the total population of these provinces has been prevented largely by the increase of population in industrial and urban centers. In the east, industry alone absorbs newcomers, especially as newer districts are offering better opportunities to those who are inclined toward agriculture and are even drawing some away from the land previously occupied in eastern provinces.

The past three or four decades, and especially the last one, have seen a very rapid development of the western provinces and territories. The population of British Columbia in 1871 was 36,247, composed of British immigrants and their descendants, as well as Canadians from eastern provinces. Manitoba had in the same

year a population of 25,228, exclusive of Indians. Table V gives subsequent government census statistics of the increase of population.

TABLE V*

POPULATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND MANITOBA WITH PERCENTAGES OF DECENNIAL INCREASE, 1871-1911

YEAR	BRITISH COLUMBIA		MANITOBA	
	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase
1871.....	36,247	....	25,228	....
1881.....	49,459	36.5	62,260	146.8
1891.....	98,173	98.5	152,506	144.9
1901.....	178,657	81.9	255,211	67.3
1911.....	392,480	119.7	455,614	78.5

* Compiled from Fifth Census, 1911, Vol. I, p. 522.

The Northwest Territories have more or less kept pace with this growth. The earliest statistics are those found in the census of 1871. Until 1911 the returns for the territories have been given undivided, although estimated statistics of the population by provinces are now available for 1901 as well as for 1911. Table VI shows the population of the territories and provinces since 1871 so far as figures are available.

TABLE VI*

POPULATION OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES INCLUDING ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN AND THE YUKON WITH PERCENTAGES OF DECENNIAL INCREASE, 1871-1911

YEAR	NORTHWEST TERRITORIES		ALBERTA		SASKATCHEWAN		YUKON	
	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase	Total	Percentage of Decennial Increase
1871.....	48,000†	.....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	....
1881.....	56,446†	17.6	.....	....	.....	....	.....	....
1891.....	98,967†	75.3	.....	....	.....	....	.....	....
1901.....	20,129	.....	73,022	....	91,279	....	27,219	....
	211,649†	113.9	.....	....	.....	....	.....	....
1911.....	17,196	-14.6	374,663	413.1	492,432	439.5	8,512	-68.7
	892,803†	321.4	.....	....	.....	....	.....	....

* Fifth Census of Canada, 1911, Vol. I, Tables V, VI, and VII.

† Total Population including Alberta, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon.

Thus far the western provinces have grown much more rapidly than did the East in its pioneer days. Percentages of increase are here even less significant. However, such is to be expected if consideration be given to the changed nature of transportation facilities and the aggressiveness of the immigration policy which especially favors the immigration of agricultural labor and agriculturists. This speedy development may be expected for some time to come. That western Canada is destined to receive many millions of new settlers and that the West will play an increasingly important part in Canadian life, can hardly be doubted after a glance at Table VII, giving the population by provinces in 1901 and 1911.

TABLE VII*

POPULATION OF CANADA BY PROVINCES: ABSOLUTE NUMBERS, 1901 AND 1911, AND PERCENTAGES OF INCREASE FOR THE DECADE

Province	Numbers		Absolute Increase	Percentage of Increase
	1911	1901		
Saskatchewan.....	492,432	91,279	401,153	439.48
Alberta.....	374,663	73,022	301,641	413.08
British Columbia.....	392,480	178,657	213,823	119.68
Manitoba.....	455,614	255,211	200,403	78.52
Quebec.....	2,002,712	1,648,898	353,814	21.46
Ontario.....	2,523,274	2,182,947	340,327	15.58
Nova Scotia.....	492,338	459,574	32,764	7.13
New Brunswick.....	351,889	331,120	20,769	6.27
Prince Edward Island....	93,728	103,259	-9,531	-9.23
Northwest Territories....	17,196	20,129	-2,933	-15.79
Yukon.....	8,512	27,219	-18,707	-68.73
Canada.....	7,204,838	5,371,315	1,833,523	34.13

* Fifth Census of Canada, 1911, Vol. I, Tables V, VI, and VII.

In general the advance in the western organized provinces in the decade 1901 to 1911 has varied from a 439 per cent increase for Saskatchewan to a 78.5 per cent increase for Manitoba, as compared with 21.5 per cent and 15.6 per cent for Quebec and Ontario, respectively; and the average absolute increase, if such a comparison is of any value, has been almost as large for the western provinces as for the two eastern provinces, a phenomenon which had never occurred before. A comparison of western rates of increase of population with those of the Maritime provinces is even more

significant. Statistics for the Yukon and the present Northwest Territories are naturally of no importance or significance.

The influence of the west on the growth of Canadian population may be further explained by Table VIII.

TABLE VIII*

POPULATION OF CANADA: THE ABSOLUTE AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE, 1871 TO 1911

Province	1871	1911	Absolute Increase	Percentage Increase
British Columbia.....	36,247	392,480	356,233	982.79
Northwest Territories †...	48,000	892,803‡	844,803	1760.00
Manitoba.....	25,228	455,614	430,386	1705.99
Quebec.....	1,191,516	2,002,712	811,196	68.08
Ontario.....	1,620,851	2,523,274	902,423	55.67
Nova Scotia.....	387,800	492,338	104,538	26.96
New Brunswick.....	285,594	351,889	66,295	23.21
Prince Edward Island.....	94,021	93,728	-293	-0.31
Canada.....	3,680,257	7,204,838	3,515,581	95.25

* Fifth Census of Canada, 1911, Vol. I, Tables V, VI, and VII.

† Including Alberta, Saskatchewan (now provinces), the Yukon, and other territories.

‡ See Table VI.

In short, the rate of increase in western Canada has been 983 per cent for British Columbia, and over 1,700 per cent for the prairie provinces as compared with an increase of 95.2 per cent for the whole Dominion and smaller rates of increase for the eastern provinces of the Dominion.

Finally, Table IX is a summary of the growth of the population of all Canada since 1851 with the absolute and percentage increase by decades.

This shows that the absolute increase during the first decade of the twentieth century has exceeded the total increase for the three preceding decades, ending 1901. The rate of increase for the last censal period has been 34.1 per cent as compared with an average rate in previous decades of about 12 per cent. Surely Canada has a most encouraging outlook, and if the rate of immigration continues to grow annually, as it has been doing, by the next census the population of Canada should be well over the ten millions mark.

TABLE IX*

POPULATION OF CANADA, ABSOLUTE INCREASE AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE FOR
DECENNIAL YEARS 1851-1911

Year	Province	Population	Absolute Increase	Percentage of Increase
1851.....	{ Canada Maritime provinces	1,842,265 542,144		
	Total.....	2,384,409	.....	....
1861.....	{ Canada Maritime provinces	2,507,657 663,761		
	Total.....	3,171,518	787,109	33.1
1871.....	Canada	3,689,257	507,739	16.0
1881.....	Canada	4,324,810	635,553	17.2
1891.....	Canada	4,833,239	508,429	11.7
1901.....	Canada	5,371,315	538,076	11.1
1911.....	Canada	7,204,838	1,833,523	34.1

* Fifth Census, 1911, Vol. I, p. 522.

II. URBAN CONCENTRATION

Naturally, in the development of a given country, the movement of the population is toward the urban rather than the rural communities, since cities do not grow up until the necessity arises for an industrial and commercial center in which to carry on the business of the rural districts. Hence it is to be expected of agricultural countries, of agricultural sections of the country, and of the agricultural period of a country's development, that the rural population will by far exceed the population of urban centers. But Canada, an agricultural country, has had the experience of extraordinarily rapid development of the proportion of the urban to total population, as may be seen from a consideration of Table X.

TABLE X*

URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION EXPRESSED IN PERCENTAGE OF THE
TOTAL POPULATION AT EACH DECENNIAL
CENSUS, 1871-1911

Year	Urban	Rural
1871.....	18.8	81.2
1881.....	21.1	78.9
1891.....	28.8	71.3
1901.....	37.6	62.4
1911.....	45.5	54.5

* Compiled and estimated from the various censuses.

In sixty years the urban population has grown from being little more than one-tenth of the rural population until today (1911) the proportion of the urban to the rural population is about 5 to 6.

This increase of urban population is characteristic of every province. The movement during the decade between the census of 1901 and that of 1911, as shown in Table XI, is particularly interesting.

TABLE XI*

INCREASE OF THE RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION OF CANADA BY PROVINCES
DURING THE DECADE 1901-11

Province	Total Increase	Rural Increase	Urban Increase
Ontario.....	340,327	-52,184	392,511
Quebec.....	353,814	39,951	313,863
Manitoba.....	200,403	70,511	129,892
Alberta.....	301,641	180,327	121,314
Saskatchewan.....	401,153	287,338	113,815
British Columbia.....	213,823	100,318	113,505
Nova Scotia.....	32,764	-23,981	56,745
New Brunswick.....	20,769	-1,493	22,262
Prince Edward Island.....	-9,531	-9,546	15
Yukon.....	-18,707	-13,430	-5,277
Northwest Territories.....	-2,933	-2,933	.....
Canada.....	1,833,523	574,878	1,258,645

* Fifth Census of Canada. 1911, Vol. I, Table X, p. 530.

The absolute increase of urban population for all Canada has been over twice as great as the absolute increase of the rural population, and 68.6 per cent of the increase has been urban during the last census decade. The increase of urban population has been greatest in Ontario where the rural population has actually decreased by 52,184. No doubt part of this rural depopulation is due to the westward movement.

The increase in urban population in Ontario is caused very largely by the influx of artisan immigrants most of whom settle in industrial and commercial centers. For the ten-year period comprising the fiscal years, July 1, 1901, to March 31, 1911,¹ the total immigration to Ontario amounting to about 397,000, might explain the increase of urban population of 392,511.² However, some part of this total of immigration must later have moved to western Canada.

¹ This period is as nearly comparable with the census period as is possible.

² *Immigration: Facts and Figures*, 1912, p. 5.

Altogether one is inclined to believe that there has been a definite movement of the rural population of Ontario to the urban centers of Ontario.

One is led to the same conclusion by a consideration of the conditions in Quebec where the immigration for the same period, 1901 to 1911, amounted to only 240,000, while the increase of urban population amounted to 313,863. Obviously there must have been a certain concentration of the rural French Canadian population into the urban centers of Quebec. Statistics for the Maritime provinces, which received only 4.3 per cent of the immigration during the fiscal period 1900 to 1912, suggest a like probability.¹

That the westward movement is one factor in the increased proportion of urban to total population in eastern Canada is shown by the fact that, while there has been a loss of 9,546 in the rural population of Prince Edward Island, the urban population increased by 15.

One of the most striking features of the urban movement has been its extension to western Canada. Of course, one would expect an increase of urban population in the West, especially in British Columbia and Manitoba. But in each of these provinces the increase of urban population actually exceeded the increase of rural population. In Alberta and Saskatchewan, the only provinces where the increase of rural exceeded the increase of urban population, the increase of urban was about one-third of the total increase of the population in those provinces. One may well be inclined to believe that the increase of urban population in western Canada has been excessive.

Another phase of the urban movement is revealed by a study of the population of towns and cities at various census periods since 1871. Tables XII and XIII give the number of cities and towns of certain sizes by provinces for the census years from 1871 to 1911.

Table XII shows that since 1871 Quebec has had one city with a population of over 100,000 and one with a population of from 50,000 to 100,000—Montreal and Quebec, respectively. Toronto reached the 100,000 mark during the decade 1881 to 1891. Winnipeg and Vancouver joined this group in the decade 1901 to 1911.

¹ *Immigration: Facts and Figures*, 1912, p. 5. Issued by Department of Interior.

TABLE XII*
CITIES AND TOWNS OF CANADA OF CERTAIN SIZES, BY PROVINCES, IN EACH CENSUS YEAR FROM 1871 TO 1911

Province	Cities over 100,000						Cities 50,000 to 100,000						Cities 25,000 to 50,000						Cities 10,000 to 25,000						Towns 7,000 to 10,000						Towns 4,000 to 7,000																	
	1871		1881		1891		1901		1911		1871		1881		1891		1901		1911		1871		1881		1891		1901		1911		1871		1881		1891		1901		1911									
	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911								
Ontario.....	I	I	I	I	I	..	2	2	I	3	I	I	I	I	3	I	5	6	I	3	I	3	8	10	12	8	10	14	11	15	21					
Quebec.....	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	..	I	2	3	7	I	I	..	3	3	5	5	3	4	3	4	8					
Manitoba.....	I	I	I	I	I			
New Brunswick	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	..	2		
Nova Scotia....	I	I	I	I	I	2	I	
British Columbia	2	I	
Saskatchewan..	2	I	
Alberta.....	
Prince Edward	I	I	I	I	I	I
Island.....
Yukon.....
Northwest Ter- ritories.....
Canada.....	I	I	2	2	4	2	2	2	I	3	3	3	5	6	5	6	3	2	10	11	31	5	12	14	20	20	13	21	22	33	43

* Compiled from Fifth Census of Canada, Vol. I, Table XIV, p. 553.

Ontario has always been the premier province for towns and cities, large and small, although since confederation Montreal has always been the largest city in Canada. Quebec comes second, with a considerably smaller number of cities and towns. In 1901 and 1911 Ontario has had 4 cities with a population of over 25,000, as compared with Quebec's 2. In 1911 Ontario had 19 cities with a population of 10,000 while Quebec had only 9. Furthermore, Ontario has always led in the number of towns with a population of from 4,000 to 10,000. In 1911 British Columbia and Manitoba

TABLE XIII*

CITIES AND TOWNS OF CERTAIN SIZES IN CANADA IN EACH CENSUS YEAR
FROM 1871 TO 1911

Year	Over 4,000	Over 7,000	Over 10,000	Over 25,000	Over 50,000	Over 100,000	Over 200,000	Over 400,000
1871.....	27	14	9	6	3	1	0	..
1881.....	43	22	10	8	3	1	0	..
1891.....	55	33	19	9	3	2	1	..
1901.....	74	41	21	10	5	2	2	..
1911.....	107	64	44	13	7	4	2	1

* Compiled from Table XII, above.

had each one city with a population of over 100,000. Other provinces exhibit the same tendency toward urban concentration. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have one city each with a population of from 25,000 to 50,000 and a number of smaller cities and towns. Prince Edward Island has but one city, and this has never had a population of more than 13,000. Saskatchewan and Alberta have entered the race only in the last decade. Manitoba seems bent on developing four large cities. The Yukon and the Territories, however, are completely devoid of urban centers.

According to Table XIII, Canada had, in 1911, 107 towns with a population of 4,000 or more, as compared with 27 in 1871, and 55 in 1891. In 1911 she had 64 centers with a population of over 7,000; 44 cities with a population of over 10,000; 13 with a population of over 25,000; 7 with a population of over 50,000; 4 with a population of over 100,000; 2 with a population of over 200,000, and one with a population of over 400,000.

Table XIV gives some idea of the growth of certain cities.

TABLE XIV

POPULATIONS OF CERTAIN CITIES HAVING 24,000 INHABITANTS OR OVER IN 1911,
COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING POPULATION FIGURES FOR
EACH CENSUS YEAR FROM 1871 TO 1901

City	Province	Population				
		1911	1901	1891	1881	1871
Montreal...	Quebec.....	470,480	257,730	219,616	155,238	115,000
Toronto...	Ontario	376,538	208,040	181,215	96,196	59,000
Winnipeg...	Manitoba	136,035	42,340	25,639	7,985	241
Vancouver..	British Columbia	100,401	27,010	13,709	.....	.....
Ottawa.....	Ontario	87,062	59,928	44,154	31,397	24,141
Hamilton...	Ontario	81,969	52,634	48,959	36,661	26,880
Quebec.....	Quebec	78,190	68,840	63,090	62,446	59,699
Halifax....	Nova Scotia ...	46,619	40,832	38,437	36,100	29,582
London.....	Ontario	46,300	37,976	31,977	26,266	18,000
Calgary.....	Alberta	43,704	4,392	3,876	.....	.....
St. John....	New Brunswick.	42,511	40,711	39,179	41,353	41,325
Victoria....	British Columbia	31,660	20,919	16,841	5,925	3,270
Regina.....	Saskatchewan...	30,213	2,249	.....	.....	.....
Edmonton..	Alberta	24,900	2,626	.....	.....	.....

Montreal has always been the leading city. Toronto has been a close second since 1891. Winnipeg and Vancouver have had a very rapid growth since 1881, especially during the decade 1901 to 1911. This is characteristic of all western cities. Vancouver and Calgary are the product of thirty years' growth; Regina and Edmonton are the result of the last ten years' development in the prairie provinces. Eastern cities are much older and their growth has been more regular and less spectacular.

Much has been said in recent years about the depopulation of small towns, especially in Ontario and Quebec. Table XV shows that two cities with a population of over 10,000, namely, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, and Salaberry de Valleyfield, Quebec, have experienced a loss of population. Lindsay of Ontario, Levis of Quebec, and Dawson City of the Yukon, which had each a population between 7,000 and 10,000, have declined in the last decade. Four cities of the 4,000 to 7,000 variety have lost in population, and 70 towns, 47 of them Ontario towns, ranging in size from 1,000 to 4,000, and 84 villages, of which 49 are in Ontario, have declined in population.

On the other hand, very many cities and towns, and especial villages, have sprung up not only in western but in eastern Canada and most small towns and villages of Ontario and Quebec hav

TABLE XV*

NUMBER AND CLASSIFICATION OF SMALL TOWNS AND CITIES, BY PROVINCES,
WHICH HAVE EXPERIENCED A DECLINE OF POPULATION IN
THE DECADE 1901 TO 1911

Province	Cities over 10,000	Towns			Villages
		7,000 to 10,000	4,000 to 7,000	1,000 to 4,000	
Ontario.....	..	I	2	47	49
Quebec.....	I	I	..	5	26
Nova Scotia.....	..	..	..	7	I
New Brunswick.....	..	..	I	5	2
Manitoba.....	..	..	..	3	4
Prince Edward Island.....	I	..	..	2	..
British Columbia.....	..	..	I	I	I
Alberta.....	..	..	..	..	I
Saskatchewan.....	..	..	..	..	..
Yukon.....	..	I	..	..	..
Territories.....	..	..	..	..	..
Canada.....	2	3	4	70	84

* Compiled from Fifth Census of Canada., Vol. I, Table XIII, pp. 535-55.

actually increased in population. This movement is a matter which cannot be fully interpreted and understood without a consideration of the statistics of immigration, occupations, and manufactures by localities, statistics which are not as yet available.

W. J. A. DONALD

McMASTER UNIVERSITY
TORONTO, CANADA